

# Engagement regimes of doctoral researchers: disciplinary-systemic confluence

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## Goal of the project

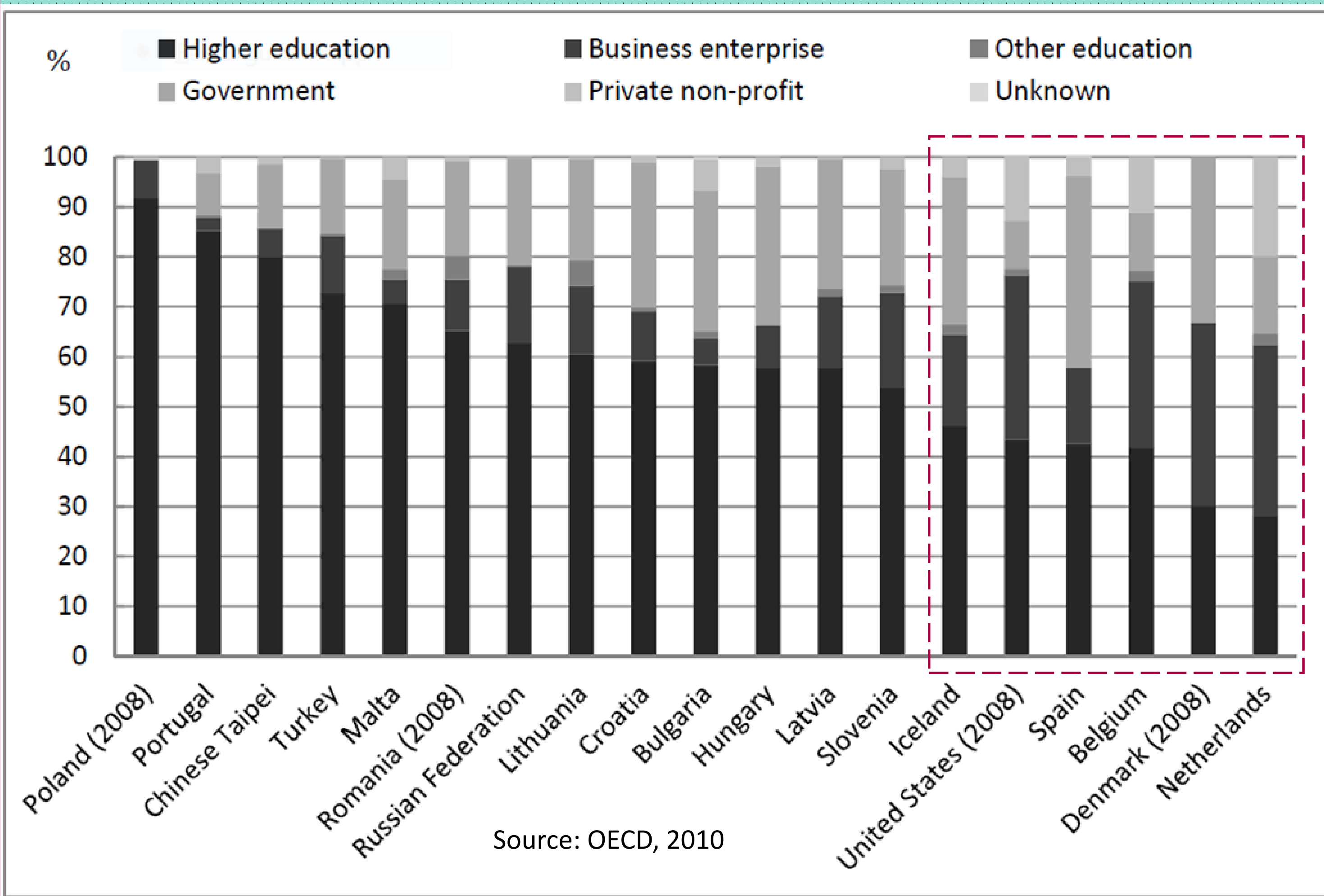
The aim of the project is to study the prevalence and experiences of **mobility** and **collaborative** activities as potential **learning opportunities** during PhD education at the participating universities in the RUNIN project. Policy recommendations at both university, national, and European levels will form an important result of this study.

## Relevance of the research

Data about the careers of doctorate holders show that in advanced economies, less than 50% of doctorate holders are being employed in academic sector.



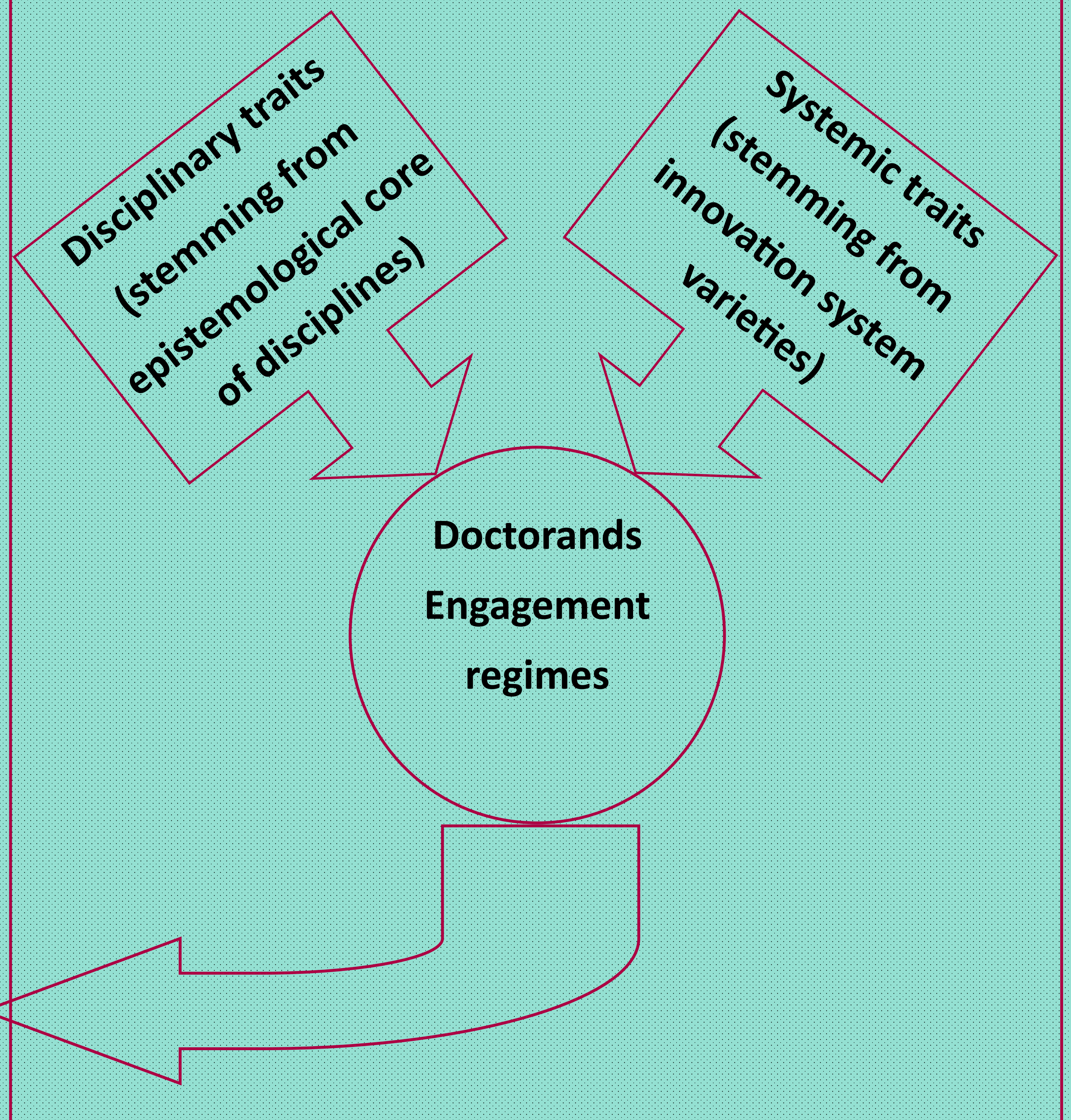
Doctorate holders, by sector of employment, 2009  
As a percentage of employed doctorate holders



## Research questions

- RQ: How can academic research policies help various academic disciplines in better exploitation of engagement opportunities for doctorands?
- SQ1: How extensively are mobility, collaboration and commercialisation schemes used by doctorands across different academic departments?
- SQ2: How do the combinations of *disciplinary* and *systemic* factors differentiate the actual learning experience of doctorands across academic departments?

## Hypothesis development:



## Methodology: explanatory sequential mixed-methods

### Quantitative

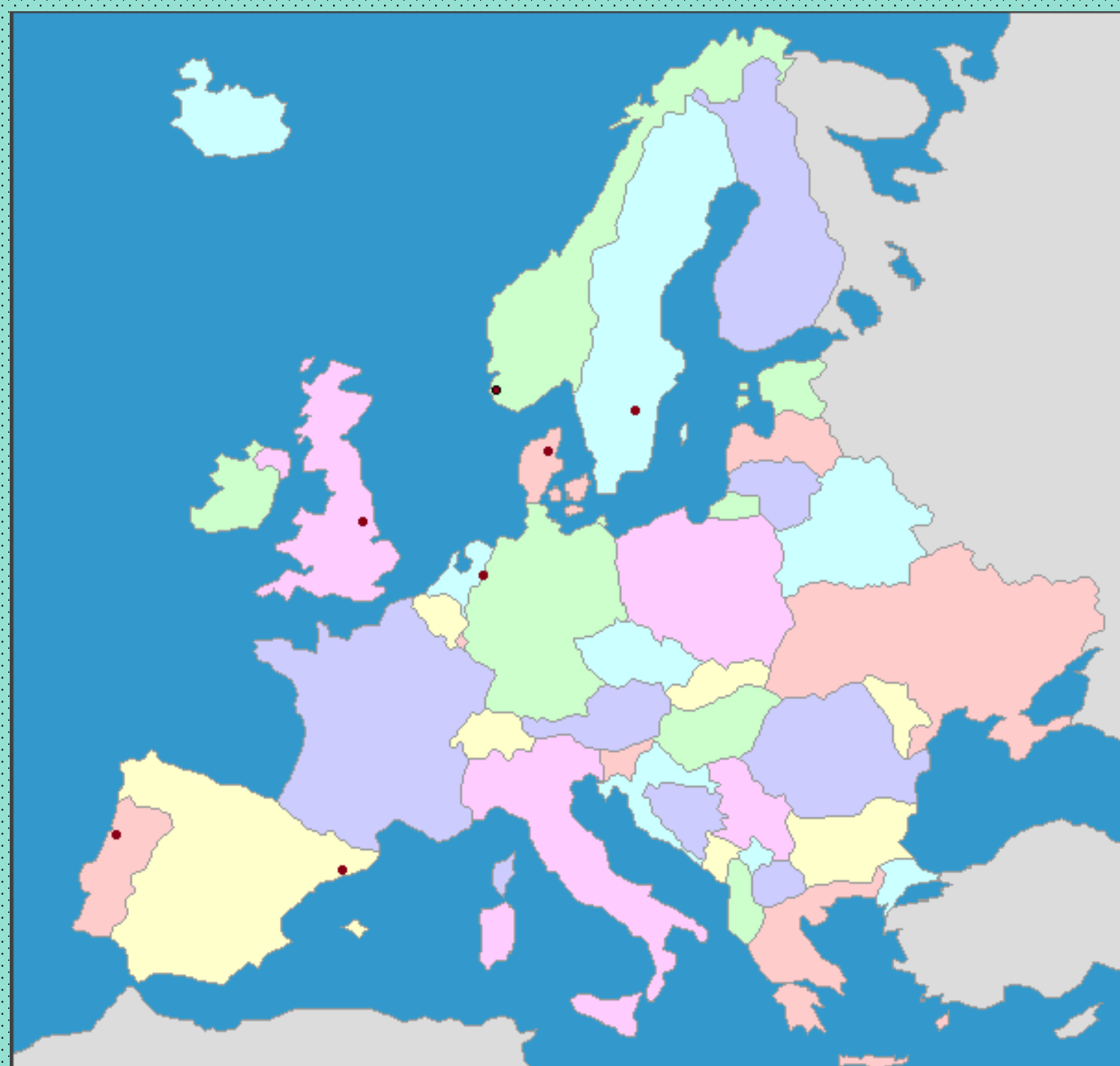
**Prevalence** of engagement by doctorands through mobility, collaboration and commercialization schemes (across different departments).

**Survey** of seven participating universities† in the RUNIN project.

### Qualitative

**Experience** of doctorands (across different departments) in terms of acquiring knowledge-related and transferable skills from engagement regimes.

**Comparative case study** of University of Stavanger and Linköping University's doctorands (in-depth interviews).



† Universities to be included in the survey (partners in the RUNIN project):

- . University of Stavanger, Norway
- . University of Lincoln, United Kingdom
- . University of Twente, The Netherlands
- . Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain
- . Linköping University, Sweden
- . University of Aveiro, Portugal
- . Aalborg University, Denmark

## Expected result: harmonizing academic research policy and innovation policy

- ... at national and university level, based on academic disciplinary traits.
- To match the potential for, and the actual exploitation of inter-institutional mobility and collaboration opportunities during PhD education

